

In the Claims:

The claims listing is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a material, comprising:
 - forming an ozone-solvent solution at a first temperature;
 - passing said ozone-solvent solution through a heater to heat said ozone-solvent solution from said first temperature to form a heated-ozone solvent solution relative to said first temperature; and
 - reacting the heated ozone-solvent solution with the material at a second temperature;
 - wherein the first temperature is less than the second temperature[, the relatively lower first temperature facilitating an increased concentration of dissolved ozone in the solvent, the relatively higher second temperature facilitating an increased reaction rate between the ozone-solvent solution and the material; and
 - wherein the reacting step comprises:
 - heating said ozone-solvent solution from said first temperature to substantially said second temperature to form a heated ozone-solvent solution; and
 - after said step of heating said ozone-solvent solution, applying said heated ozone-solvent solution to the material at said second temperature].
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said ozone-solvent solution is formed at said first temperature by dissolving an ozone gas in solvent at said first temperature.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second temperature is at least 5 degrees Celsius greater than the first temperature.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the first temperature is between 1 and 30 degrees Celsius.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the first temperature is between 1 and 10 degrees Celsius.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second temperature is between 30 and 95 degrees Celsius.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second temperature is between 35 and 65 degrees Celsius.
8. Cancelled
9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said heated ozone-solvent solution is [applied to] reacted with the material within a time period after heat is first applied to said ozone-solvent solution in said heater [for heating said ozone-solvent solution from said first temperature to the said second temperature] to minimize a decrease in concentration of [the dissolved] ozone in the heated ozone-solvent solution [resulting from heating the ozone-solvent solution].
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the time period is [set to a predetermined value] such that the concentration of the heated ozone-solvent solution [applied to the material] at said second temperature is greater than if said ozone-solvent solution had been formed at said second temperature.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the time period corresponds to no more than a 20 percent decrease in the concentration of the dissolved ozone in the heated ozone-solvent solution from the concentration at the first temperature.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein reacting said ozone-solvent solution with the material comprises applying the ozone-solvent solution to the material using at least one nozzle.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein reacting the ozone-solvent solution with the material comprises immersing the material within the ozone-solvent solution.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of [applying] reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material has at least one point of [application] reaction, and wherein the [step of heating] heater comprises [using a liquid-to-liquid] a heat exchanger placed just upstream of the at least one point of [application] reaction of said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of [applying] reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material has at least one point of [application] reaction, and wherein the [heated ozone-solvent solution is heated using] heater comprises an in-line heater placed just upstream of the at least one point of [application] reaction of said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material.
16. Cancelled
17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
 - injecting [and mixing] a chemical into said ozone-solvent solution prior to reacting said ozone-solvent solution with said material.
18. Cancelled
19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises a hydroxyl radical scavenger.
20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises an element selected from the group consisting of a pH buffer, an acid, and a base.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises a corrosion inhibitor.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the chemical comprises a surfactant.
23. Cancelled
24. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said material comprises a substrate, and wherein the step of reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution with said substrate comprises:
 - spinning said substrate to achieve a rotational speed about an axis; and
 - dispensing said ozone-solvent solution over the spinning substrate using at least one nozzle.
25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein said at least one nozzle is positioned on said axis.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein a plurality of nozzles are positioned in a plurality of positions over the substrate.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said material comprises a substrate, said method further comprising the step of rinsing the substrate after the substrate is [treated] reacted with said heated ozone-solvent solution.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the material comprises a planar substrate selected from the group consisting of semiconductor wafers, flat panel displays, and memory discs, substrates for use in an electronic device.
29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the material is selected from the group consisting of photoresist, post etch resist residue, post etch residue, anti-reflective coating, organic contamination.
30. Cancelled
31. (Currently Amended) A method for oxidizing a material, comprising:

[dissolving an ozone gas in solvent at a first temperature to form] forming an ozone-solvent solution at a first temperature;

[heating] passing the ozone-solvent solution through a heater to heat said ozone-solvent solution from the first temperature [to a second temperature] to form a heated ozone-solvent solution; and

after the step of [heating] passing the ozone-solvent solution through the heater, reacting the heated ozone-solvent solution with the material at [approximately the] a second temperature to oxidize the material,

wherein [dissolving the ozone gas in solvent] forming the ozone-solvent solution at the cooler first temperature allows for a higher concentration of [dissolved] ozone in the [solvent] ozone-solvent solution, and the warmer second temperature allows for a higher reaction rate between the ozone-solvent solution and the material.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, further comprising rinsing the material.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the second temperature is at least 5 degrees Celsius greater than the first temperature.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the first temperature is between 1 and 30 degrees Celsius.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein the second temperature is between 30 and 95 degrees Celsius.
36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein reacting the ozone-solvent solution with the material comprises applying the ozone-solvent solution to the material.
37. Cancelled
38. Cancelled
39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, further comprising: injecting a chemical into the ozone-solvent solution prior to applying the ozone-solvent solution to the material.

40-115 Cancelled

116. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, further comprising the step of moving said nozzle relative to said substrate.

117-120 Cancelled

121. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of [applying] reacting said heated ozone-solvent solution [to] with said material comprises passing said heated ozone-solvent solution through an orifice that directs said heated ozone-solvent solution toward said material, and wherein the [ozone-solvent solution is heated in the heating step using an in-line] heater is placed just upstream of said orifice.